

## INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Western Zones)

DATE DISTR. 27 FEB 50

SUBJECT The Resignation of Federal Press Chief  
Paul Bourdin

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE  
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

25X1

DATE OF  
INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

25X1

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT OF 1917, U.S.C., §1 AND §2, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

25X1

Note: The resignation of Paul Bourdin, Press Chief of the Federal Republic, was reported over the radio on 26 January 1950.

1. Bourdin submitted his letter of resignation to Chancellor Adenauer on the morning of 26 January 1950. In the letter he called attention to the painful situations he had found himself in during the recent flood of denials and explanations issued by the Chancellery, with apparent reference to statements made by government figures on the Saar question and on the nationalistic speech of Justice Minister Dehler in Hamburg. Bourdin stated in the letter that he could not continue in office unless the Chancellor would agree to let him be present at all conferences, meetings, and ceremonies which might later become controversial and require communiqués, explanations, or denials.
2. The strain on Bourdin during recent weeks had mounted steadily. Time and time again, various members of the coalition cabinet had made statements, issued memoranda, given interviews, and leaked confidential information, which, in his opinion, made the Press Office look ridiculous. The Saar memorandum of the Ministry for All-German Affairs, the Heuss speech on the Saar at Koblenz, Adenauer's subsequent statement to the United Press on the breaking off of trade negotiations in Paris, the Dehler speech and Adenauer's explanations of it, and all the communiqués, denials, explanations, and press conferences revolving around these mix-ups had exhausted Bourdin's patience.

CLASSIFICATION

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE #	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NISB					
ARMY #	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBI					

Document No. 25X1  
 No Change In Class.   
 Declassified  
 Class. Changed To: TS 25X1  
 Auth'd: HR 70-2  
 Date: 2004/07/08 By: 00457R00409970011-1

25X1

